

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 157955

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S E C R E T STATE 157955

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR

SUBJECT: MORNING SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT REPORTS

1. TENSIONS IN SPD TROIKA: RECENT PRESS SPECULATION INDICATES THAT SCHMIDT AND BRANDT ARE INTERESTED IN GETTING RID OF WEHNER AS SPD BUNDESTAG CHAIRMAN. THE PRESENT SPD LEADERSHIP SITUATION--DIFFERENT MEN AS CHANCELLOR (SCHMIDT), PARTY CHAIRMAN (BRANDT), AND BUNDESTAG PARTY LEADER (WEHNER)-- S UNPRECEDENTED. BOTH BRANDT AND SCHMIDT HAVE GONE ON RECORD STATING THAT THE ROLES OF HEAD OF GOVERNMENT AND HEAD OF PARTY EACH REQUIRE THE FULL-TIME WORK OF ONE MAN. TEHNER'S PERFORMANCE IN MOSCOW LAST YEAR WAS EMBARRASSING TO BRANDT, AND WEHNER NEVER CONCEALED HIS CRITICISM OF BRANDT'S LEADERSHIP SHORTCOMINGS. IT IS GENERALLY THOUGHT, HOWEVER, THAT WEHNER WILL RETAIN HIS POSITION THROUGH THE

SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 02 STATE 157955

1975 PARTY CONVENTION, AND BEYOND THAT UNTIL AFTER THE

1976 ELEITION. (STATE)

2. JAPANESE CABINET RESHUFFLE PLEASES ROC OFFICIALS:
JAPANESE CABINET DEVELOPMENTS, ESPECIALLY KIMURA'S

APPOINTMENT AS FOREIGN MINISTER, HAVE ENCOURAGED
PROPOSERS OF FLEXI-
BILITY IN THE GOVERNMENT OF THE
REPUBLIC OF CHINA (GROC) TO RENEW EFFORTS FOR
RECONCILIATION. WHILE THEY RECOGNIZE THAT JAPAN WILL
NOT RETRACT THE OHIRA APRIL 20 STATEMENT THAT, INTER
ALIA, JAPAN DOES NOT RECOGNIZE THE ROC AIRLINES AS AN
AIR COMPANY REPRESENTING A STATE, THEY THINK A LESSER
GESTURE COULD BE SUFFICIENT TO END THE PRESENT IMPASSE.
(STATE)

3. JOINT COMMUNIQUE AT END OF MEXICAN PRESIDENTIAL
VISIT: ON JULY 17, PRESIDENTS VELASCO OF PERU AND
ECHEVERRIA OF MEXICO EXPRESSED ROUTINE SUPPORT FOR A
NUCLEAR-FREE LATIN AMERICA AND FOR CUBA'S RE-INCLUSION
IN THE INTER-AMERICAN DIALOGUE." MORE IMPORTANTLY,
THEY CALLED FOR FORMATION OF A LATIN AMERICAN ORGANI-
ZATION FOR ECONOMIC CONSULTATION AND COOPERATION AND FOR
ASSOCIATIONS OF EXPORTERS OF RAW MATERIALS--SPECIFICALLY
INCLUDING SILVER--FOR THE COLLECTIVE DEFENSE OF "FAIR
PRICES." (STATE)

4. FRG, CZECHOSLOVAKIA RATIFY TREATY: FOREIGN MINISTERS
GENSCHER AND CHNOUPEK EXCHANGED RATIFICATION DOCUMENTS
JULY 19 ON THE TREATY NORMALIZING RELATIONS BETWEEN
THEIR TWO COUNTRIES. ACCORDING TO GEN CHER, THE TREATY
REPRESENTED A COMPROMISE THAT SAFEGUARDED THE INTERESTS
OF BOTH SIDES. CHNOUPEK SAID IT FINALLY REMOVED THE
BURDEN OF THE MUNICH "DIKTAT" FROM THE RELATIONS BETWEEN
THE TWO STATES. (TUCKER).
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